Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Just to the north of that.

President.—There is some low-lying portion where you find a lot of water during flood time. It is very difficult to pass. I know that. Of course, we will try to raise it.

Construction of the Elephant Krawl.

54. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—(a) who was the contractor for the construction of the elephant krawl at Chemony in the Talappalli Range in 1102 and how much timber was sanctioned for its construction and how much timber was actually used for the same;

(b) who measured the timber before supply for the construction;

(c) was there any balance after construction; if so, what quantity and how many logs;

(d) did the contractor apply for a special permit for the removal of the unused logs;

(e) who measured the unused logs and what was the measurement and what is the report of the Forester about this matter;

(f) was any explanation taken for the excess found from the Ranger; what is his explanation;

(g) how was the matter finally closed?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a). There was no krawl construction at Chemony in 1102.

(b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g). These do not arise in view of the above reply.

Tramway Workshop.

55. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to answer (a) what is the total amount expended on the Tramway Workshop up-to-date;

(b) what is the expense incurred on account of the workshop during a year on an average;

(c) what is the revenue on an average from the workshop during a year;

(d) what are the different kinds of work done at the workshop;

(e) whether private works are attended to and, if so, what all works were done for private persons during the years 1102 and 1103 respectively, for whom and the terms of such works;

(f) whether all necessary repair works so far as the Tramway is concerned are executed by the workshop;

(g) whether there are permanent employees attached to the workshop, and if so, how many of them are there, what is the pay of each and to what different communities do they belong;

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(h) who is in charge of the Tramway workshop;

(i) whether in the Tramway workshop private persons are permitted to undergo training in the different branches of work?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a), (b), and (c). No separate accounts are kept for the workshop alone;

(d) Casting, Fitting, Smithy, Carpentry, Turning works, etc.

(e) Yes; (1) Casting works, (2) Carpentry works, (3) Smithy works, (4) Turning works, (5) Fitting works.

(f) Yes, except in special cases.

(g) Yes. 34 in number. Statement is placed on the Council Table.

(h) The Foreman.

(i) Yes.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The answer to (a), (b) and (c) is "no separate accounts are kept for the workshop alone". You could ascertain from those accounts what is the total amount spent on the Tramway workshop so far kept either in the Tramway Office or the Forest Office.

President.—No accounts are kept for the expenses of the workshop alone.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—What is the total amount spent so far for machinery and so on?

President.—Have you any accounts for the Tramway workshop and Tramway?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No, it is clubbed together.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Even in that account, will it not come under separate headings? In that case, how can we ascertain whether the Tramway workshop is in itself a loss to Government or not? Have you any objection to have separate accounts hereafter? Is there any objection to keep separate accounts, so far as the Tramway workshop is concerned, so that we may know whether it is working at a loss or a profit?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—We will consider.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The answer to sub-division (h) is the Foreman is in charge of the Tramway workshop. Has Mr. King, the Tramway Engineer, anything to do with the management of the Tramway workshop?

President.—He is the general supervising officer. He has got some cantrol over the workshop. He is not in direct management.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—He is the managing Director of the workshop. The Foreman is in direct charge of the workshop.

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Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Who is in charge of the workshop? Is it Mr. King or this Foreman ?

President.—Mr. King, the Tramway Engineer, is the supervising officer and the man at the spot is the Foreman.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Yes, it is so.

Half-fee concessions to the pupils of the Backward Classes.

56. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—(1) Will the Government be pleased to state when was the system of giving half-fee concession to pupils of backward classes introduced, for the first time in the State ;

(2) what was the principle involved in it and the object with which it was introduced ;

(3) when it was first introduced was the grant of fee concession subject to any restrictions ;

(4) were any restriction subsequently introduced ; if so, why ;

(5) have the same concessions ever been extended to pupils not belonging to backward classes; if so, on what ground?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(1) In 1921.

(2) When the fees in the several departments of English schools were raised, it was considered desirable to afford fee concessions to pupils belonging to communities that were educationally and financially backward, and the system was intended to serve as an incentive to these children to take to higher education.

(3) No.

(4) Yes. The rule as originally framed made no distinction between the rich and the poor. Later on poverty certificates were insisted on in order to restrict the concessions to the really poor.

(5) Not exactly the same concessions, but a limited number of half-free scholarships were provided under Article 71, Cochin Education Code, to be awarded to pupils on the results of the Scholarship Examination so as to enable poor pupils to go in for higher education.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—With regard to the reasons for introducing this system, they are stated to be the educational backwardness and financial backwardness. Are there papers with the Government to show that the financial backwardness of communities was also a consideration for that ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That is the presumption from the answer.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I am not on the presumption. Are those papers with the Government ? I want to

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